

that extremely objectionable. I find it intolerable and this amendment will try to strike that provision but it does so by answering the arguments that have been raised by the City of Omaha specifically and those arguments are that win or lose an annexation fight the City of Omaha ends up paying the attorney's fees. The reason why they do is if you go into court and you lose a fight, you end up paying the other side's attorney's fees. The reason why they say you do in this case is if you win the fight, that means you do annex and that means that you will pick up the debt of the SID and part of that debt involves the attorney fees for fighting the annexation. This amendment allows for attorney fees not to be a part of the debt of the SID. It rather allows an SID to tax itself in its regular budget, its regular fiscal year budget, tax itself for attorney fees in fighting any kind of litigation either ongoing or proposed so that if the annexation suit is lost, if the annexation suit is won by the city and the city does annex the SID, the debt for the attorney fees is not part of the debt that they would have to incur. Now this answers in our estimation the arguments by the city that they want to eliminate having to pick up these attorney fees. It answers the specific problem with a specific answer. It does not, it does not say, well, since there is that problem, we are going to just take away the legal right of the entity, an SID, to sue. That is what our objection was before. My amendment will allow the legal entity to stand. An SID can stand on its own. The City can stand on its own. One can fight the other. There was a problem about attorney fees. My amendment addresses that so that that argument should go away and we still have the legal right of the two entities to stand on their own. The other part of the amendment deals with what the city and what the SID shall do or may do. The bill as it is written suggests that the SID shall enter into an agreement with the city, enter into negotiations, to make sure that the SID is going to perform certain things during the course of its construction and maintenance. That is called a subdivision agreement. Right now as a matter of course, all SID's do enter into agreements, subdivision agreements, with the City of Omaha. They think it is a good idea to have these. They have not objected to them and they do negotiate these kinds of areas and they are doing it as a matter of course but